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the depression of the early seventeenth century due to pestilence and war, and the concurrent struggle to maintain foreign markets threatened by the mercantilist ideals of Holland and France. With the eighteenth century he brings us to the "period of progress". Between 1740 and 1800 the broadcloths produced in Yorkshire increased from 41,441 to 285,851 and the narrow cloths from 58,620 to 169,262—all this before more than twenty factories had appeared in the county. Some of the causes ascribed are of a general character—trade with a newly established colonial empire and improvements in national finance and communication—but particularly explicable of Yorkshire's advance was its supply of water-power, now fully utilized. The phenomenon of an eighteenth-century development, practically independent of the impetus given by new machinery and the factory system, suggests that forces were then at work in England which cannot be described in a narrow formula. For a scholarly exposition of this development, illustrated with vivid details of the conditions of manufacture and marketing, we owe Mr. Heaton much.

H. L. GRAY.

Tudor Constitutional Documents, A. D. 1485-1603. With an Historical Commentary. By J. R. TANNER, Litt.D., Fellow and formerly Tutor of St. John's College, Cambridge. (Cambridge: University Press. 1922. Pp. xxii, 636. 37s. 6d.)

THIS beautifully made volume does for the whole Tudor period in a more complete way what Prothero does for the reigns of Elizabeth and James I. in his *Select Statutes and other Constitutional Documents*. Salient statutes, parliamentary debates, cases, reports of treason trials, extracts from pamphlets, essays, and letters are marshalled to illustrate the foundations of the Tudor monarchy, the church settlements of Henry VIII. and his children, the functions of the king's secretary, and of the Council, the constitution and jurisdiction of the various courts, the law of treason, the organization and working of local government, the place of Parliament in the state, and finance.

The extracts are carefully chosen, and little of importance in the printed sources has been omitted, except perhaps Dudley's *Tree of Commonwealth*, a rare and important commentary on Henry VII.'s system. The most valuable and original section is that on local government; the most serious omission is the failure to discuss in a compact chapter the Tudor theory of sovereignty, although of course that is developed from place to place all through the book. The section on the church settlements, covering 189 out of 626 pages of text, is disproportionately long. In the discussion of the monasteries the attempt is again made to discover whether or not the monks were really evil in their living, without a suggestion of the real question whether the monastic establishments were any longer fulfilling any social or economic

function which warranted their continuing to receive large amounts of the national income. The social phase of the church movement as an expression of developed nationalism which ended in substituting patriotism for Christianity is unrecognized; its material aspect, with the importance of the church lands in every variation of policy to the final solution of saving one's soul and safeguarding one's newly acquired estates, is never hinted at.

Unfortunately for the larger usefulness of his book, Dr. Tanner has made his selections exclusively from material already printed; and indeed, for certain parts of his field he seems to be unaware of the great stores of original manuscript documents to be found in the Record Office and British Museum manuscript room. Otherwise, he would never have written, "there is a remarkable deficiency of the original material of history" for the reign of Henry VII. The failure to use these rich mines results in a disproportionate slimness of the section on the foundations of the Tudor monarchy. A few pages from the Burghley correspondence would have vastly enriched the selections on the king's secretary and the Council, and raised a question whether after all "the Tudor Council is the King's slave".

In the discussion of finance there are some errors which should be corrected. Tudor finance is a particularly precarious business to deal with, without careful research in the records, since with the exception of some very valuable tables in Scott's *Joint Stock Companies*, little in print is trustworthy. Far from being "not very productive" "from the point of view of the royal revenue", the rents of the crown lands were throughout the whole Tudor period one of the greatest sources of recurring royal income, and even after Elizabeth's latest sales the rents were still very large. The customs and tonnage and poundage were farmed only in certain ports; the £24,000 (increased later to £50,000) from the farm (stated by Dr. Tanner on the authority of Prothero) is only part of the income from this source in Elizabeth's reign. The impositions were not laid "to protect the native merchant against the alien", for every circumstance attending their imposition by Mary shows they were laid to increase revenue. In the matter of expenditures Ireland was "a" rather than "the" disturbing factor until the last five years of Queen Elizabeth. Much more disturbing than Ireland were the wars with France in the time of Henry VIII., Edward, and Mary, and the aid to the Netherlands and the war with Spain in Elizabeth's reign. Calais was not "a source of revenue" for many years before it was lost, but cost Henry VIII., Edward, and Mary very large sums each year before it was fortunately restored to France.

The documents are accompanied by an historical commentary at the head of each section, full of detailed knowledge of a kind useful in examinations. With that there can be no quarrel, since the book, despite its importance, is frankly first of all a text-book for use of

English university students. While very complete accounts of the history of each branch of the Tudor government are given, owing to the form of the book the relative importance and connections of all the various organs are difficult to show as clearly as might be desired. The modern student of constitutional history is not, however, satisfied with a constitutional history which stops here. He desires to understand the cultural and economic basis of the government—the classes which form it and the cultural and economic forces which placed them in control. The nineteenth-century idea of the Tudor state as the “people at large” rallying around the hero kings of the house of Tudor, which seems to be accepted by Dr. Tanner, is not sufficient for the modern historian. The improvement of roads, which lessened distance; the development of the new science of bookkeeping and accountancy, which made supervision over vast extents of land from a distance possible; the rise of the gentry to new economic wealth through changes in methods of agriculture; the education of their sons either in law at the universities or in accountancy and bookkeeping in the houses of the great nobles, are very pertinent for the advent and continuation of the new centralized gentry commonwealth which is called the Tudor monarchy—and these factors are entirely overlooked in this really monumental work.

F. C. DIETZ.

English Government Finance, 1485-1558. By FREDERICK C. DIETZ, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of History, University of Illinois. [University of Illinois Studies in the Social Sciences, vol. IX., no. 3.] (Urbana: the University. 1920. Pp. 245.)

THE first impression made by a reading of this excellent monograph is of its thoroughness. Notwithstanding the difficulties of the subject, the unusualness of the sources, the technicalities of sixteenth-century finance, and the obscurity of the devices of kings and ministers to obtain funds, no question arises without being thoroughly examined and clearly answered. Early Tudor finance is a closed book to almost all historical students. Mr. Dietz puts a wide-open volume in their hands.

The second impression is of the striking extent to which historical events can be clarified by studying their financial background. Not that the whole foreign policy of Henry VII., or the Reformation under Henry VIII., or the reaction under Mary, are to be explained as mere financial expedients of those rulers; but these events certainly have a new significance when it is seen how many steps in their development were taken in response to financial needs. The “Submission of the Clergy” of 1531, for instance, was a device for reaching two ends at the same time, and apparently, of equal interest to the king, his acknowledgment as head of the Church and additional income in a period of diminishing revenue and rising expense. Concomitant with all the